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by Walter Speller 29 Jan 2021

Albana – embracing texture



Walter argues that we have it all wrong about Romagna's divine white wine grape variety.

Last October was the first time I ventured out to a real, rather than virtual, tasting. It included lots of glasses, spittoons and 12 reasonably socially distanced colleagues in Bertinoro, a pretty town in Romagna. Bertinoro sits on the top of a hill, overlooking the Adriatic plain to the north-east and lush hills dotted with vineyards, olive groves and fruit trees to the south (I took this picture of the view from the town). Except for Sangiovese, the white Albana reigns supreme here, something referenced by tastings' title Albana Dei. [...]

Celli, I Croppi Secco 2019 Albana di Romagna

Tasted blind. Straw yellow. Deep lemon, orange and lime nose. Surprisingly neutral palate but with citrus fruit turning up on the finish. Refreshing and with a viscous mouthfeel. (WS) 14%

Drink 2020–2024